Bert Seymour was an American who had been raised on the wide-open prairies of the Central States. The lure of the north country and reports of rich gold findings brought him to Edmonton. His home was on the south bank of the Saskatchewan just west of the present 112th Street. Why a man of his disposition ever came to this country is a mystery. The whole territory was heavily wooded at that time and every shadow was a lurking Indian ready to scalp him and every sound a bear or wolf ready to consume him.

The old trail south to McKernan's Lake ran approximately where the Medical Building now stands. This district was covered with huge clumps of willow bushes and larger trees. Garneau's pigs and cattle ran unrestricted over this whole section although his home was approximately at the corner of 90th Avenue and 111th Street.

One beautiful fall day Bert Seymour and George Clarke (Ted Omand's half brother) set out for a duck shoot on McKernan's Lake. After dusk had drawn a curtain on a very successful shoot they set out to return to civilization(?). Seymour who pictured every shadow a lurking Indian and every stump in the dusk as a black bear, wanted to spend the night in Strathcona which was closer but Clarke felt he must get back as his mother was all alone in their home ~~on Mayfair Flats~~ in Windsor Park. As they were passing a clump of willow bushes about 80th Avenue one of Garneau's pigs which had dug a copy hollow for himself under the willows snored. Seymour, terrified, grabbed Clarke and put him in front of him as a shield yelling "Shoot over him! Don't wound him!" Fortunately for Garneau's pigs and amicable feeling on this side of the river, Clarke was able to pacify Seymour somewhat and they started on their way again. Bert, however, was still convinced

in the back of his mind that they had had a very narrow escape from a bear.

Clarke left Seymour just south of the river bank. Temptation was too great for him. He stole along in the darkness behind Bert and gave an Indian war-whoop. ~~There was a~~ The Seymours cabin was a slight distance down the river on the brow of the bank and Seymour headed for this, broke the latch on the door and terrified its two sleeping inhabitants. his mother + father He spent a terror-stricken night there and next morning hitched up a team and drove to ~~Mayfair~~ Windsor Park to tell Mrs. Ormand that George had been scalped and that they must round up a party to search for his remains.

Seymour became the butt of every Indian and bear story in Edmonton. That night there was a heavy frost and all the potatoes in the district froze except those in the garden by the cabin on the south side of the river. Ever afterwards it was said that Bert Seymour went through the plot so fast that he raised the temperature and kept the potatoes from freezing.